

TOTAL SPEND 2020 – 2026 (so far):

\$20,294,512.10

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Total contract spend</u>
Shilvosky M. Buffalo Consulting Resources, LLC	\$2,149,950.00
The Quarks Group	\$462,400.00
FoxChase Advisors LLC	\$2,077,748.00
PFM Group Consulting, LLC	\$3,044,652.50
The Kapoor Company	\$1,713,135.00
Campbell Durrant, PC	\$2,804,500.00
Conrad M Siegel Inc.	\$377,525.00
Fourth Economy Consulting Inc.	\$309,051.60
Ballard Spahr LLP	\$7,355,550.00
\$20,294,512.10	

**HELP US FIGURE OUT THE TRUE COST
OF THE CITY OF CHESTER'S RECEIVERSHIP
SINCE IT BEGAN IN JUNE 2020**

To promote transparency as to how taxpayer money is spent, the Receiver and the DCED are required under [law](#) to provide the Pennsylvania Department of Treasury with all of their vendor contracts worth \$5,000 or more so that the contracts can be posted online.

You might think this makes things more transparent. It doesn't. You really have to dig to find out the amount of money being spent because there are many name variants for the same contractor and numerous contract amendments. If you have any information that you don't see here, please let us know by emailing us at info@chesterwater.com and we'll update this as we learn more facts.

Here's what we've uncovered so far and here's how we did it:

We searched for the Receiver's contracts by putting the terms "bankruptcy" and "receiver" into the "Subject Matter Contains" search field in the Treasury's online library as shown below:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `contracts.patreadury.gov/search.aspx`. The page features a search form with the following sections:

- Search Contracts**
 - Contracting Party(s)**: A text input field with a dropdown arrow and placeholder text "Type in at least 3 characters".
 - Amount of Contract (\$)**: A text input field with a dropdown arrow.
- Agency**
 - A dropdown menu currently showing "--Search All Agencies--".
- Contract Number**
 - An empty text input field.
- Date Range**
 - Execution Date**: "from" [calendar icon] [input] "to" [calendar icon] [input] "or within last" [input] "days".
 - Begin Date**: "from" [calendar icon] [input] "to" [calendar icon] [input] "or within last" [input] "days".
 - End Date**: "from" [calendar icon] [input] "to" [calendar icon] [input] "or within last" [input] "days".
- Subject Matter Contains**
 - A text input field containing the word "receiver".

At the bottom of the form are two buttons: "Reset" and "Search".

You can also add the Agency Name (Department of Community and Economic Development) as shown below:

PATREASURY.GOV
Contracts e-Library



OpenBookPA
Stacy Garrity, State Treasurer

- Dashboard
- Local Resources
- 2024-25 Budget
- Fiscal Health Scorecard
- Total Funds

Dashboard / Contracts e-Library
Contract Count Dashboard
e-Library Login
User's Manual
Reminder to

Search Our Contracts e-Library Database

Enter at least (1) of the fields below to begin your search. Reset before each search.

Party Name

Agency Name

Contract Amount

Contract Number

Execution Date From

To

End Date From

To

Subject Matter

Search
Reset

The searches revealed vendor contracts totaling more than **\$20 million** spent by the DCED since the Receivership began in June 2020.

Here are the bottom-line numbers:

Vendor	Total contract spend
Shilvosky M. Buffalo Consulting Resources, LLC	\$2,149,950.00
The Quarks Group	\$462,400.00
FoxChase Advisors LLC	\$2,077,748.00
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The calculations underlying these figures can be accessed [here](#).

However, this is only a **partial picture** of the cost of the Receivership.

This total **does not include** the amount that the DCED has spent on Econsult Solutions, Inc. who supported work updating the Act 47 Recovery Plan for the City of Chester before the Receiver was appointed as well as at some point after.

The Receiver and DCED have also obtained services for the Receivership by having their vendors **subcontract with other vendors**. Those subcontracts **do not appear** on the Treasury's website, and we have no knowledge, yet, as to why subcontracting was performed.

This total also **does not include** the salaries that the DCED has paid its staff assigned to the City's "situation," nor the salaries for the City's hires that the Receiver has placed on the City's payroll. It also **does not include** the salary that the DCED pays to the Receiver, which is more than \$180,000 per year. Thus, for the six years of the Receivership, the DCED has paid **over \$1 million** in salary to the City's Receiver (Michael Doweary, followed by Vijay Kapoor) alone.

The Kapoor Company, as shown in the table above, was compensated over **\$1.7 million** for **Vijay Kapoor** to serve as Chief of Staff to the former Receiver, Michael Doweary. That same **Vijay Kapoor** is now the City of Chester's Receiver, earning a salary of over \$180,000. Thus, during the six-year term of the City's Receivership so far, Vijay Kapoor appears to have received nearly \$2 million in payment.

In addition to these sums, we learned that before the Receivership even began, the DCED paid Econsult Solutions, Inc. about **\$1.5 million** to act as the Recovery Coordinator for the City of Chester. Imagine what the DCED spent in the 24 years it was involved in the City of Chester **before** the Receiver was appointed. We will try to uncover that information also.

And one of the least transparent things in this situation is a **\$1 million "contingent" amount** which the City apparently owes to the law firm Greenberg Traurig relating to the City's legal efforts from 2018-2020 to monetize the CWA. This unexplained entry can be found on the City's bankruptcy court docket, *In re City of Chester, Pennsylvania*, No. 22-13032, in a November 10, 2022 filing titled "List of Creditors Holding 20 Largest Unsecured" at page 3. **Does this contingent fee mean that Greenberg Traurig was to be paid \$1 million by the state for efforts leading to a successful takeover of the CWA?** The DCED has not commented on this but we'll keep trying to find out. Stay tuned.

Help us figure out the true cost of the Receivership. We would love to learn what your research comes up with.

Help us figure out the cost of the last 31 years of Act 47 oversight by the DCED. Imagine if all of that money had been put into the City's pension plans.

We will be posting all available contracts regarding the Receivership in the upcoming days as we continue to seek a better understanding of how much taxpayer money has been spent and who has received this money (several individuals have a York City connection and/or have worked together before). The goal of this project is to inject some transparency into an opaque situation. This is a developing story and we will update it as we uncover carefully hidden facts. For example, why have some of the vendors entered into "settlement agreements" with the DCED?