



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on May 15, 2018

Millions in Tax Dollars Stolen Via Welfare and Sent to Terrorist Group

It sounds like something from a movie: A man is caught at an airport with one million in cash in a carry-on suitcase. Yet in what some have called the “worst scandal in Minnesota history,” this scene plays out weekly at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, with more than \$100 million dollars leaving country and ending up in the Middle East and North Africa just last year. The kicker?



Some of it is your tax money — and some of it went into the hands of a terrorist group.

While they probably weren’t told to beware the Ides of March, a 3/15 tip about the one-million-dollar man did lead media outlet Fox 9 to the story. As it [reported](#) Sunday, the currency was from “Hawalas,” Islamic-model businesses sometimes used by immigrants “to courier money to countries that have no official banking system” — and little law and order. Thus did former Seattle police detective Glen Kerns discover that “some of the money was being funneled to a Hawala in the region of Somalia that is controlled by the al Shabaab terrorist group,” the news organ further informed.

Yet the story gets even worse. Fox 9 again:

As Kerns dug deeper, he found that some of the individuals who were sending out tens of thousands of dollars’ worth of remittance payments happened to be on government assistance in this country.

How could they possibly come up with such big bucks to transfer back home?

“We had sources that told us, ‘It’s welfare fraud, it’s all about the daycare,’” said Kerns.

...Five years ago the Fox 9 Investigators were first to report that daycare fraud was on the rise in Minnesota, exposing how some businesses were gaming the system to steal millions in government subsidies meant to help low-income families with their childcare expenses.

“It’s a great way to make some money,” Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman said.

In order for the scheme to work, the daycare centers need to sign up low income families that qualify for child care assistance funding.

Surveillance videos from a case prosecuted by Hennepin County show parents checking their kids into a center, only to leave with them a few minutes later. Sometimes, no children would show up.

Either way, the center would bill the state for a full day of childcare.

Video from that same case shows a man handing out envelopes of what are believed to be kickback payments to parents who are in on the fraud.

Ah, our tax money at work.

Worse still, Kerns reports that it doesn’t even matter if the money is sent back home for legitimate purposes: When it enters areas controlled by al Shabaab, the jihadist group demands a cut.



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Fox 9 reports as well that the daycare scam is common in the Somali immigrant community, with 10 centers currently being investigated and dozens more under suspicion.

It's so common, in fact, that a Somali-descent politician was involved. Fox 9 tells us that at the very moment Fozia Ali was being sworn in as a member of the city of Hopkins Park Board, vowing to "support the constitution of the United States," she was under investigation for scamming more than \$1 million dollars through her Salama Child Care Center in south Minneapolis. "Ali submitted claims for payment through the state-and federally funded Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) that falsely inflated the number on any given day by 80 or more children, including days when Salama was closed," [wrote](#) the *Star Tribune* last year, providing more detail. She's now serving time in a federal prison.

This story again illustrates why that "government is best which governs the least," to quote the [famous saying](#) now attributed to *The United States Magazine and Democratic Review*. Were the Constitution followed, the feds couldn't be in the handout business. This would ensure at least a measure of subsidiarity — the principle stating that tasks in society should be performed by the smallest possible unit — as entities closer to the people (states, towns, organizations, etc.) would administer aid.

Of course, private entities deliver "organized charity" best because, next to individuals, they're closest to the beneficiaries. Being "on the ground" where the aid is given and being acquainted with the community, they may know who's legitimate and who's a scammer, and they often have the flexibility to deny aid based on common-sense judgment.

In contrast, nameless, faceless government bureaucrats don't know the aided from Adam, generally don't care and, regardless, must follow procedures — even when those unbending rules enable con artists.

As for the Minnesota case, why has such an outrageous example of fraud received so little press? One obvious reason is that since it illustrates the folly of big government, focus on it would discredit the statism the media so love. Moreover, as commentator John Hinderaker [writes](#), "I suspect that many of Minnesota's liberals think that our bureaucrats performed their jobs very well: they siphoned off hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars to finance liberal constituencies — the principal purpose of government, according to our lib friends."

For sure. Facilitating big government, buying votes via state largesse, and satisfying the internationalist goal of redistributing American wealth overseas are leftist priorities. As for the money financing al Shabaab, well, ever hear about how you must break a few eggs to make an omelet?



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