

# Your views

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**Huntsville Times**

## Stealing millions

Tick-tock. \$1,300. Tick-tock. \$2,600. You get the idea. At \$1,300 per second, Exxon is shattering all profit records in the history of the world. Tick-tock. Fat cats at Exxon are getting fatter. Tick-tock. American families are struggling to put gas in their cars.

Only \$3.70 per gallon for gas? Let's see how long it stays at the "bargain" price of \$3.70 before it goes back to \$4.00 per gallon and beyond.

Americans are asking themselves, how could this happen? The simple answer is corporate greed. (Four syllables, four more tick-tocks, \$5,200 more in profit.) Oil companies, like Exxon, are ruthless in gouging us and padding their bottom lines.

Exxon's gouging is bad, but its stealing is worse. Exxon committed fraud against Alabama and stole millions from taxpayers. Those millions could have built roads, funded education or even been given back to us.

Perhaps Exxon's to-do list looks something like this. Gouge at the pump? Check. Steal from Alabama taxpayers? Check. Walk away without punishment? Check.

Exxon gouges us at the pump and intentionally stole taxpayer money but has yet to be held accountable for either. This lack of accountability should outrage any taxpayer.

Tick-tock. In the time it took to read this, Exxon just made another \$156,000. Work for eight hours today and Exxon will make \$37,440,000. At \$1,300 per second and \$3.70 per gallon of gas, the clock ticks quickly. Maybe we are all "cuckoo" for letting Exxon get away with this.

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