

Grand Jury Script

Runs 1:26 • Tape Counter Time: 05:01

Video	Audio
Hart walking	Chris Hart became the latest county commissioner ordered to testify before a federal grand jury on matters involving Tampa General Hospital.
SOT: CHRIS HART	PREVIOUSLY, I TOLD YOU I THOUGHT THIS WAS ALL POLITICS. I WILL TELL YOU ALL NOW THAT THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS INVESTIGATION.
Graphic: County commission delay	The investigation centers on why Hillsborough County commissioners delayed action on a plan to help Tampa General collect on medical bills.
Add in elements in a circle: hospital, Bekhor, \$\$ with arrows leading back to the commission	The question: was the delay meant to pressure the hospital into doing business with David Bekhor, a medical equipment salesman and financial backer of some on the commission. Not so, says commission chairman Tom Scott.
SOT: TOM SCOTT	I CANNOT BE BOUGHT, NOBODY OWNS ME, I DO WHAT I THINK IS RIGHT FOR THIS COMMUNITY.
ON CAMERA	Scott didn't testify today. He says he was excused, for now. But he believes he is the grand jury's target.
Busansky walking	He says he first met Bekhor through former commissioner Phyllis Busansky. She did testify today, but wouldn't discuss what she said to the grand jury.
Tampa General	Tampa General's money problems have other commissioners asking questions. Commissioner Jan Platt is hoping the grand jury will find answers.
SOT: JAN PLATT	IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THE FACTS COME OUT AND IF THERE IS CRIMINAL WRONGDOING THEN THOSE WHO ARE INVOLVED NEED TO BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.
Platt walking	Platt believes the system works—and she's seen it work, back in the early 80's, when three of her fellow commissioners then were indicted in a bribery scandal. For NewsLab, I'm Deborah Potter.