

# POLITICO

## **The POLITICO Wrongometer**

*Our policy reporters truth-squad the 2016 presidential debates.*



## Clinton is right about Trump's 'very small' \$14 million loan

By ISAAC ARNSDORF | 09/26/16 09:26 PM EDT

**“You know, Donald was very fortunate in his life and that's all to his benefit. He started his business with \$14 million, borrowed from his father.” — Hillary Clinton**

**“My father gave me a very small loan in 1975 and I built it into a company that's worth many, many billions of dollars.” — Donald Trump**

Clinton is right on this one. The Wall Street Journal tracked down a 1985 casino-license disclosure that showed Trump's father lent him \$14 million — a value of \$31 million in today's dollars. Trump's spokesman told the Journal he was referring to Trump's very first loan, a decade earlier. But it's clear Trump's \$1 million claim understates his father's assistance. In the 1990s, New Jersey regulators dinged Trump after his father bought \$3.5 million in chips at one of his casinos.

We're also unable to verify the value of Trump's company because it's privately held and he hasn't released his tax returns.