

NEWS

United States Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney, District of New Jersey
970 Broad Street, Seventh Floor
Newark, New Jersey 07102



Christopher J. Christie, U.S. Attorney

More Information? Call the Assistant U.S. Attorney or other contact listed below to see if more information is available.

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Assistant U.S. Attorney:
BRIAN R. HOWE
973-645-2853

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 1, 2008

Four Contractors Sentenced to Prison for Bribing New Brunswick Housing Rehab Officials

(More)

Public Affairs Office
Michael Drewniak, PAO

973-645-2888

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CAMDEN – Four contractors who paid bribes to officials from the New Brunswick Department of Community Planning and Economic Development were sentenced today to prison terms, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

The defendants were sentenced by U.S. District Judge Joseph E. Irenas. Following are details of each of the sentencings and, for background on the cases, links to press releases on their respective guilty pleas. The prosecutions were part of the corruption investigation into the housing rehabilitation program in New Brunswick and the city's Department of Community Planning and Economic Development.

McNulty and John

Joseph McNulty, of North Brunswick, was sentenced to 24 months in federal prison and fined \$2,000. Sam K. John, of Sayreville, was sentenced to 21 months in prison and fined \$2,000.

March 15, 2007, guilty plea press release:

www.usdoj.gov/usao/nj/press/files/pdffiles/mcnul0315rel.pdf

Prakash George Karot

Karot was sentenced to 21 months in prison and fined \$2,000.

May 11, 2007, guilty plea press release:

www.usdoj.gov/usao/nj/press/files/pdffiles/karo0511rel.pdf

George Thomas

Thomas was also sentenced to 21 months in prison and fined \$2,000.

March 27, 2007, guilty plea press release:

www.usdoj.gov/usao/nj/press/files/pdffiles/thom0327rel.pdf

Each of the defendants sentenced today cooperated in the investigation and received consideration in their sentences for that and for pleading guilty and accepting responsibility. All remain free on bail pending their surrender to the federal Bureau of Prisons on a date to be decided by the BOP.

Municipal officials who have pleaded guilty as part of the investigation are William Walker, the city's former director of housing rehabilitation, whose sentencing is scheduled for Oct. 28; Linda Roach, a former supervisory clerk in the Department of Community Planning and Economic Development, who was sentenced to 10 months (half in prison and half in a half-way house); and Richard Kaplan, a former construction inspector and assistant zoning officer for the City of New Brunswick, who was sentenced to 30 months in prison, but was then charged federally in a murder-for-hire plot against

his wife and awaits trial.

The cases were prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian R. Howe, Deputy Chief of the Special Prosecutions Division in Newark.

Christie credited Special Agents of the FBI's Franklin Township Resident Agency, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Weysan Dun in Newark; Special Agents of the HUD Office of the Inspector General, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Renee Febles; and Special Agents of the IRS Criminal Investigation Division, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge William P. Offord, with the Middlesex County corruption investigation. The investigation also was assisted by investigators from the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, under the direction of Middlesex County Prosecutor Bruce J. Kaplan, and New Brunswick Police Department, under the direction of Police Chief Anthony Caputo.

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