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Three More Monmouth County Officials Get Prison Terms for Corruption

(More)

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NEWARK – U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced the following sentencing results today for three Monmouth County public officials who previously pleaded guilty to corruption charges in the FBI's Operation Bid Rig Investigation:

## <u>John Zambrano</u>

Former Long Branch Councilman John Zambrano, brother of former West Long Branch Mayor Paul Zambrano, was sentenced to four months in prison to be followed by four months of house arrest with electronic monitoring. U.S. District Judge William Jr. Martini also fined John Zambrano \$1,000 and ordered him to serve three years of supervised release upon completion of his prison time and home confinement.

John Zambrano must surrender to the federal Bureau of Prisons on Dec. 10 to begin serving his prison sentence.

John Zambrano pleaded guilty to extortion under color of official right. He admitted taking a \$1,000 bribe (passed on to him from his brother) in exchange for his influence in the award of public contracts. He faced a probable sentencing range under the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines of between 18 and 24 months in federal prison. Judge Martini, however, granted the government's recommendation that he receive a sentence below the recommended federal guidelines range in return for his cooperation in the FBI's Operation Bid Rig investigation.

Included in John Zambrano's cooperation was assistance in the investigation, which lead to guilty pleas, of the two co-owners of International Trucks of Central Jersey and a municipal salesman for that company.

## Joseph McCurnin

Joseph McCurnin, the former operations manager for the Monmouth County Division of Transportation, was sentenced to three months in prison and three months of home confinement with electronic monitoring. Judge Martini also fined McCurnin \$3,000 and ordered him to serve three years of supervised release upon completion of his prison time and home confinement. He must surrender to the Bureau of Prisons by Jan. 8.

McCurnin pleaded guilty to extortion under color of official right. He admitted helping arrange a \$1,500 bribe from the FBI undercover company to Richard Iadanza in return for Iadanza's official assistance in securing government contracts for the company.

McCurnin faced a probable sentencing range under the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines of between 12 and 18 months in federal prison. Judge Martini granted the government's recommendation that he receive a sentence below the guidelines range for cooperating in the FBI's Bid Rig investigation. McCurnin's cooperation also included assistance in the investigation of the co-owners of International Trucks of Central Jersey and the municipal salesman for that company.

## <u>Richard Iadanza</u>

Richard Iadanza, the former deputy mayor of Neptune Township, was sentenced to four months in prison and four months of home confinement with electronic monitoring. Judge Martini also fined Iadanza \$4,000 and ordered him to serve three years of supervised release upon completion of his prison time and home confinement. Iadanza must surrender to the Bureau of Prisons by Dec. 10.

Iadanza pleaded guilty to extortion under color of official right. He admitted accepting \$3,000 in two cash payments in return for his official assistance in securing government contracts for the FBI undercover company.

Iadanza faced a probable sentencing range under the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines of between 18 and 24 months in federal prison. Judge Martini granted the government's recommendation that he receive a sentence below the guidelines range for cooperating in the FBI's Operation Bid Rig investigation. Iadanza also aided the government's investigation of the co-owners of International Trucks of Central Jersey and the municipal salesman for that company, as well as other investigations.

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Defense Counsel: for Zambrano – Ronald L. Tobia, Esq. for McCurnin – Peter M. O'Mara, Esq. for Iadanza – Edward J. Plaza, Esq.