



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 8, 2009

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EX-VP OF MIDDLETOWN SAFETY CONSULTING FIRM SENTENCED
TO TWO YEARS FOR CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD
THE NYC DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that United States District Judge STEPHEN C. ROBINSON sentenced JOHN MEYER, 58, a former Vice President of IMS Safety, Inc. ("IMS"), a corporation based in Middletown, New York, to two years' imprisonment for his participation in a conspiracy to defraud the New York City Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"). According to the Information to which MEYER pleaded guilty:

IMS held itself out as a firm specializing, among other things, in regulatory compliance in the area of worker health and safety. IMS was hired by DEP contractors to provide safety oversight at DEP construction sites. This oversight was required by DEP contracts, which also required that safety oversight personnel be trained in rules and regulations relating to worker safety and experienced in the construction industry and construction safety.

During from 2006 through at least January 2008, MEYER and others engaged in a scheme in which they made false representations to DEP relating to the experience and training of certain IMS employees in order to obtain DEP's approval of their appointments to safety oversight positions. These included false representations about the employees' experience in the construction industry and with construction safety, and false representations relating to the employees' training on rules and regulations relating to worker health and safety.

In pleading guilty, MEYER admitted that he had engaged in a scheme from 2006 to 2008 to place unqualified employees with DEP. He also admitted to having furnished a resume containing false representations to one IMS employee and coaching that employee to confirm the false representations on the resume during an interview

for a DEP safety position. He admitted that DEP paid \$1,035,000 as a result of the fraudulent scheme.

In addition to his sentence of two years in prison, MEYER was ordered to pay \$1,035,000 to DEP in restitution and was ordered to forfeit \$1,035,000 to the United States. Judge ROBINSON also imposed a term of three years' supervised release. In imposing the sentence on MEYER, Judge ROBINSON underscored his intention to impose a sentence that would reflect the seriousness of the offense and deter others from engaging in similar conduct.

Mr. DASSIN praised the efforts of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Investigation Division, the United States Department of Labor Office of Inspector General, and the New York City Department of Investigation in connection with this investigation. Mr. DASSIN thanked the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Department of Labor for their assistance in the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys MARCIA S. COHEN and ANNE C. RYAN are in charge of the prosecution.

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