



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JUNE 15, 2007**

**CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
YUSILL SCRIBNER,  
REBEKAH CARMICHAEL  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE  
(212) 637-2600**

**FORMER UNION SHOP STEWARD  
PLEADS GUILTY TO ACCEPTING BRIBES  
FROM CONTRACTOR AT KINGS COUNTY HOSPITAL**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that DAVID VELTRI pleaded guilty today to charges of accepting a bribe of at least \$8,000, in return for leaving union carpenters off his shop steward reports at a union jobsite in Brooklyn. According to the documents filed in Manhattan federal court and VELTRI's guilty plea proceeding:

DAVID VELTRI was a shop steward for the District Council of New York City and Vicinity of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners (the "Carpenters Union"), assigned to a construction jobsite at the Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn. VELTRI was serving in this capacity when, from January through May 2004, he accepted at least \$8,000 in cash bribes from the owners of Tri-Built Construction Inc., a construction contractor doing work at the site, in return for submitting false shop steward reports that under-reported carpenters' hours to the union.

The owners of Tri-Built, PATRICK NOEL McCAUL and JAMES DERMOT McGONNELL, were criminally charged in a separate Indictment in December 2006. As alleged in that Indictment, by bribing shop stewards like VELTRI to submit fake reports, Tri-Built's owners avoided the detection of a long-running scheme to defraud the union and its benefit funds by paying union workers on its jobs cash, at a non-union rate, without the workers receiving any benefits or tax withholdings. The charges against McCAUL and McGONNELL remain pending.

VELTRI pleaded guilty today before United States Magistrate Judge DEBRA FREEMAN. United States District Judge

WILLIAM H. PAULEY is to impose sentence on a date yet to be scheduled. VELTRI faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison.

Mr. GARCIA thanked the U.S. Department of Labor for its work in this investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney LISA ZORNBERG is in charge of the prosecution.

07-153

###