



***United States Attorney
Southern District of New York***

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**MEDIA COMPANY OWNER PLEADS GUILTY IN MANHATTAN
FEDERAL COURT TO STEALING TENS OF THOUSANDS
OF DOLLARS IN CITY FUNDS FROM NYC-TV**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and ROSE GILL HEARN, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation, announced today that VINCENT R. TAYLOR, the owner of VRT Multimedia, Inc., pleaded guilty to conspiring with TREVOR SCOTLAND, the former Chief Operating Officer of NYC-TV, to steal tens of thousands of dollars in New York City funds. The guilty plea was entered in Manhattan federal court before United States District Judge HAROLD BAER, JR.

As alleged in the Complaint previously filed in Manhattan federal court and the Indictment to which TAYLOR pleaded guilty:

Until March 13, 2009, SCOTLAND was the Chief Operating Officer of NYC-TV, a television station operated and funded in part by New York City. As part of its operations, NYC-TV produced commercials for advertisers to be aired during its television programming. On a number of occasions between March 2007 through April 2008, SCOTLAND directed that a company owned by TAYLOR, VRT Multimedia, Inc. ("VRT"), be paid for advertising production work that was actually done by NYC-TV.

After VRT was paid for this work, TAYLOR issued checks drawn on a bank account in the name of VRT directly to SCOTLAND, or issued checks to make payments on two different credit cards in SCOTLAND's name. These payments to SCOTLAND typically totaled approximately 80 percent of the money VRT had received from the advertisers. TAYLOR kept the remainder of the money, typically

approximately 20 percent of the money VRT had received from the advertisers, even though VRT had done none of the relevant production work. The money TAYLOR and SCOTLAND stole from NYC-TV totaled more than \$60,000.

TAYLOR pleaded guilty to an Indictment charging him with conspiracy to commit wire fraud. He faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and is scheduled to be sentenced on February 25, 2010.

SCOTLAND previously pleaded guilty to a one-count Information charging him with conspiracy to commit wire fraud. He also faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. He is scheduled to be sentenced on January 26, 2010 by United States District Judge PAUL A. CROTTY.

Mr. BHARARA praised the investigative work of the New York City Department of Investigation.

United States Attorney PREET BHARARA said: "Vincent Taylor helped to steal more than \$60,000 from the City of New York. We will continue to vigorously investigate and prosecute fraud of every stripe, especially those that involve the theft of taxpayer funds."

DOI Commissioner ROSE GILL HEARN said: "This defendant used phony invoices in this fraudulent scheme to siphon taxpayer dollars. But today's admission of guilt, with a sentencing date to follow, is a sobering message of the consequences of this kind of criminal conduct."

The case is being prosecuted by the Office's Public Corruption Unit. Assistant United States Attorney BRENT WIBLE is in charge of the prosecution.

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