

Office of the Inspector General

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Additional Indictments Brought in Case Against Former MBTA Procurement Official, June 2017

A Suffolk County grand jury handed down new indictments involving a former Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) procurement official. The indictments allege that he accepted a bribe from a supplier and engaged in illegal schemes with another vendor, thereby defrauding the MBTA and enriching himself. The grand jury also indicted a private contractor for the MBTA for allegedly participating in procurement fraud schemes.

In March 2017, Timothy Dockery, 51, of Plymouth, a former buyer for the MBTA, was charged with procurement fraud, larceny, and receiving illegal gratuities from MBTA vendors worth more than \$90,000. (See <u>OIG Joint Investigation Leads to Indictments of MBTA Procurement</u> <u>Official and Construction Contractor, March 2017</u>.) The continuing investigation conducted jointly by the OIG and the Attorney General's Office resulted in additional charges against Dockery as well as charges against another MBTA vendor. Specifically, the grand jury issued new indictments on June 29, 2017, alleging that:

- Dockery solicited and received a \$5,000 cash bribe from a supplier of flooring tiles in exchange for awarding a \$32,500 contract to the supplier.
- Dockery engaged in procurement fraud by fabricating information in the MBTA's procurement file to justify awarding a \$200,000 contract for bus radiator repairs on MBTA buses. Specifically, after the MBTA received only one bid on the procurement, Dockery falsely stated that he contacted vendors to determine why they did not bid. Instead, Dockery allegedly fabricated reasons why two companies did not submit bids. At the time, one company he listed was out of business and both were incapable of performing the work.
- Dockery received illegal gratuities, including free auto repairs, a hotel gift card, lunches, and dinners in exchange for assistance in securing contracts with the MBTA. Public employees are restricted from accepting gifts worth \$50 or more in a one-year period in connection with their official position.

The grand jury also indicted Gregory Rogers, 51, of Rockport, the owner of Rogers Auto Radiator, Inc. in Medford, alleging that:

- Rogers committed procurement fraud by instructing his employees to create and submit false bids in the name of other radiator companies in connection with three radiator repair contracts, each worth \$200,000.
- Rogers engaged in larceny by submitting two fake invoices to the MBTA.

"Our joint investigation with the Attorney General's Office found evidence that Timothy Dockery engaged in a variety of corrupt activities over many years," said Massachusetts Inspector General Glenn A. Cunha. "He exploited his role of interacting with vendors to steal from the MBTA, a betrayal of the public's trust."

Dockery is charged in the new indictments with one count each of bribery, procurement fraud and accepting illegal gratuities violations. Taken together, the March and June indictments charge Dockery with criminal misconduct involving six different MBTA vendors over several years. Rogers, whose firm has done more than \$2 million in work for the MBTA during the past 10 years, faces three counts of procurement fraud and one count of larceny. Both men will be arraigned at a later date.

The OIG began its investigation in November 2014 following a call to the office's hotline. Since June 2016, the OIG worked jointly with the Attorney General's Office on this case.

Dockery and Rogers are presumed innocent until proven guilty.