



Office of the Inspector General Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Inspector General's Office Conducts Joint Investigation of Methuen Contractor for Manufacturing False Bids, July 2010

Methuen Contractor Indicted For Manufacturing False Bids

The joint investigative efforts of the Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General, the Office of the Essex District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett, the Methuen Police Department and the FBI have resulted in a Methuen contractor being indicted by an Essex County Grand Jury, charged with 12 counts of manufacturing false bids and 12 counts of presenting false claims to the City of Methuen.

Christopher D. Medugno, 50, of 15 Brentwood Lane, was arraigned in Salem Superior Court. Each count carries up to five years in state prison and a \$10,000 fine.

As a result of winning the bids, Medugno did work for the Methuen School Department, the Methuen Housing Authority, and the Methuen Department of Public Works. The alleged bid-rigging took place from 2004 to 2009 and the total amount Medugno received as a result of the allegedly manufactured bids is in excess of \$95,000.

In order to win the bids, Medugno would allegedly forge two bids from competitors who in some cases weren't even bidding on the job and then submit his own bid, which would be lower than theirs.

The investigation is ongoing and more indictments of others allegedly complicit in the process are expected, according to Essex First Assistant District Attorney John T. Dawley, who will prosecute the case.

For more information on the investigation see the [Methuen Contractor Indicted For Making False Bids](#) issued by the Essex District Attorney's Office.