



## Office of the Inspector General Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

### **OIG Investigation Leads to Indictment of the Former Executive Director of the Burlington Housing Authority for Using the Authority's Credit Card for Personal Expenditures, September 2015**

Following an investigation by the Office of the Inspector General ("OIG"), the former executive director of the Burlington Housing Authority ("BHA") was arraigned September 2, 2015, for using her agency's credit card for personal expenditures.

In July 2015, a Middlesex County grand jury indicted Maureen Lynch, 53, with knowingly using her official position to secure an unwarranted privilege in connection with her personal use of a BHA credit card. Lynch, who resigned last month after serving as the BHA's executive director for 12 years, was arraigned September 2, 2015, in Middlesex Superior Court in Woburn.

Middlesex County prosecutors allege that in 2012, officials at the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development ("DHCD") reviewed BHA's operations and instructed Lynch to stop making personal purchases on the housing authority's credit card. In 2014, an OIG investigation discovered that after DHCD's warning, Lynch continued using the BHA credit card for personal purchases. The OIG's review found she had reached the card's available \$20,000 credit limit, virtually all of which was attributable to personal expenditures. The purchases included a \$1,000 truck rental to move her son to Florida, \$2,200 in charges at a Florida motorcycle shop, \$2,000 for a trip to Disneyworld, \$1,300 in airfare for her daughter's honeymoon in Aruba, and \$5,000 in cash advances.

Lynch is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

For additional information about the charge against Lynch, see the Middlesex County District Attorney's press release at: <http://middlesexda.com/news/press-release/1292>.