

Office of the Inspector General

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OIG Investigation Leads to Indictments of Two Former Buzzards Bay Water District Employees, November 2015

Two former employees of the Buzzards Bay Water District have been charged with stealing nearly \$200,000 from the district in a case investigated by the Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General ("OIG").

In November 2015, a Barnstable County grand jury indicted Caitlin Rocheleau, 35, of Forestdale, and John Ethier, 28, of Buzzards Bay, on one count of larceny each. In May 2015 the OIG launched its investigation and found evidence that Rocheleau used her position at the water district to illegally write checks to herself and to Ethier. At the time, Rocheleau was the agency's treasurer and had signatory authority for its checking account. Ethier was a technician for the water district.

After conducting its investigation, the OIG worked with the Attorney General's Office, which is prosecuting the case.

Headquartered in Bourne, the Buzzards Bay Water District provides water to more than 2,000 residents on the north side of the Cape Cod Canal.

The charges are allegations and Rocheleau and Ethier are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

For more information, contact Jack Meyers at (617) 722-8822 or at John.Meyers@state.ma.us.

For additional information about the charges against Rocheleau and Ethier, see the Attorney General's press release at: <u>Two Former Employees Indicted in Connection with Stealing Nearly</u> \$200,000 from Buzzards Bay Water District.