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## Vocational School Employee Sentenced for False Statements, March 2010

A joint investigation conducted by the Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of the Inspector General, has resulted in Joseph Giordano, (Giordano) age 63, of Bradford, MA, being sentenced on March 18, 2010 in United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, Boston.

Giordano was sentenced to three years of probation, and ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine and \$15,049 in restitution to the U.S. Department of Education after pleading guilty to one count of making a false statement. Giordano used his position at Whittier Regional Vocational - Technical School to obtain funds provided to the school under federal grants. Giordano did this by creating a company, MDG Education, which invoiced Whittier for services relating to faculty enrichment courses. MDG was not a Whittier-approved vendor. The services supposedly provided by MDG were services that Giordano typically performed in the course of his usual duties for Whittier. Giordano, through MDG, billed Whittier at a higher rate than Whittier would have paid for faculty enrichment courses had there been no MDG involvement.

See <u>Inspector General's Investigation Leads to Plea Agreement with Whittier Regional Vocational-Technical School Employee</u>, <u>December 2009</u> for additional information.