



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

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CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931

DOI STATEMENT ON THE SENTENCING OF BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN TO 10 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement regarding the sentencing of former New York State Assemblyman and labor leader BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN to ten years in federal prison on a racketeering charge. U.S. District Judge Richard J. Sullivan sentenced MCLAUGHLIN today in Manhattan federal court.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "For years, Brian McLaughlin abused his power and privilege as a politician and union leader. He exploited the very people he purported to serve by using stolen money to bankroll a lavish lifestyle that included country club dues and a new home in an affluent Long Island community. Today, in federal court, Mr. McLaughlin was presented with the bill for his illegal conduct, which he will justly pay by serving the next ten years in prison.

"This was a lengthy and laborious probe by DOI and federal authorities that included numerous interviews and the meticulous review of financial documents. Investigators followed the money and exposed Mr. McLaughlin's misappropriation of millions of dollars that included conjuring up a phantom employee on his legislative staff and taking a portion of that fictitious employee's supposed salary and shamelessly draining funds from a Little League.

"DOI's role in this investigation was integral, sharing its expertise in City contracts and agencies and ensuring that the City's interest was protected when questions arose about some of the City's street light and traffic light vendors. DOI worked with the City Department of Transportation to place those vendors under the scrutiny of an integrity monitor to guard against misconduct without interrupting service to the City's essential traffic and street light installation and maintenance.

"This significant public corruption investigation and prosecution has sent a definitive message that a tough penalty awaits public officials who manipulate their authority merely to benefit their greed -- arrest, prosecution and prison."

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Lev L. Dassin, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York; Joseph M. Demarest Jr., Assistant Director-in-Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's New York Field Division and Daniel R. Petrole, Acting Inspector General of the United States Department of Labor, and their staffs, for their hard work on this matter.

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