



*United States Attorney
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**FORMER CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF NYC-TV SENTENCED IN
MANHATTAN FEDERAL COURT TO 15 MONTHS IN PRISON**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and ROSE GILL HEARN, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation, announced that TREVOR SCOTLAND, the former Chief Operating Officer of NYC-TV, was sentenced today to 15 months in prison for stealing tens of thousands of dollars in New York City funds. SCOTLAND pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud on October 28, 2009, before United States District Judge PAUL A. CROTTY.

According to the Information to which SCOTLAND pleaded guilty, other documents filed in this case, and statements made in Manhattan federal court:

Until March 13, 2009, SCOTLAND was the Chief Operating Officer of NYC-TV, a television station operated and funded in part by New York City. As part of its operations, NYC-TV produced commercials for advertisers, to be aired during its television programming. On a number of occasions between March 2007 and April 2008, SCOTLAND directed that VRT Multimedia, Inc. ("VRT") be paid for advertising production work that was actually done by NYC-TV.

After VRT was paid for this work, the owner of VRT, VINCENT R. TAYLOR, issued checks, drawn on a bank account in the name of VRT, directly to SCOTLAND, or issued checks to make payments on two different credit cards in SCOTLAND's name. These payments to SCOTLAND typically totaled approximately 80 percent of the money VRT had received from the advertisers. VRT kept the remainder of the money, typically approximately 20 percent of the money VRT had received from the advertisers, even though VRT had

done none of the relevant production work. In total, SCOTLAND and TAYLOR stole more than \$60,000 from NYC-TV.

In addition to the prison term, Judge CROTTY sentenced SCOTLAND, 39, to three years of supervised release and ordered him to pay restitution in the amount of \$65,317.38.

U.S. Attorney BHARARA stated: "The tens of thousands of dollars Scotland stole to enrich himself included New York City funds meant to enrich the lives of New Yorkers. When Scotland chose to misrepresent who should be paid for work at NYC-TV, it was more than a shady business deal; it was a way to make a fraudulent buck off the community his business was supposed to inform. Through today's sentence, borne of our partnership with the Department of Investigation, we continue to shine a light on those who would misuse the City's money."

DOI Commissioner GILL HEARN said, "This defendant showed contempt for public service and the taxpayers who paid him handsomely to run the City's television station. He returned the favor by stealing an additional \$60,000 from them. Thankfully, DOI investigators and prosecutors from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York wrote the ending to this particular crime drama and there will be no second season."

TAYLOR has been indicted separately on a charge of conspiracy to commit wire fraud. He pleaded guilty before United States District Judge HAROLD BAER, JR., on November 9, 2009, and is scheduled to be sentenced on March 25, 2010.

Mr. BHARARA praised the investigative work of the New York City Department of Investigation in this case.

The case is being prosecuted by the Office's Public Corruption Unit. Assistant United States Attorney BRENT WIBLE is in charge of the prosecution.

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