



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Anthony Ivezaj

**LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER PLEADS GUILTY
TO BRIBERY OF U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL**

Terrence Berg, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, announced today that the owner of a Ferndale, Michigan based construction business entered a plea of guilty to the charges of conspiracy to bribe a public official.

The defendant, Anthony Ivezaj, age 40, of Milford, Michigan and the owner of TMI Construction Company, entered the guilty plea in United States District Court before Judge Julian Able Cook, Jr. Under the plea agreement, Ivezaj faces up to 33 months imprisonment and a fine of up to \$50,000.00.

The bribery conviction arose from ANTHONY Ivezaj's agreement to provide free construction services and materials for a residence in Romulus, Michigan owned by co-defendant Roy M. Bailey. At the time, Roy Bailey was the Field Office Director for the Detroit office of the Department Homeland Security - Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The free construction services and materials, valued at more than \$3,000.00, were provided by Anthony Ivezaj in return for having Roy Bailey agree to release one of Ivezaj's relatives from ICE custody. After Roy Bailey was suspended from his government position, the released

individual was re-arrested by ICE officials and was subsequently deported from the United States.

Making the announcement along with U.S. Attorney Berg were Armando Lopez, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago, Illinois office of the Department of Homeland Security - Office of Inspector General, and Andrew G. Arena, Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit, Michigan office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In announcing the guilty pleas, Mr. Berg stated, "Bribing a federal official is a grave offense that will be pursued and prosecuted to the utmost extent of the law. Anyone who would seek to bribe or unduly influence a federal official would be well advised to think twice."

Special Agent in Charge Arena stated, "Public corruption is an investigative priority for the FBI. The FBI will aggressively investigate individuals who offer bribes to public officials in exchange for favors."

Acting Special Agent in Charge Lopez stated, ""DHS-OIG will continue to actively attack the corrupt and greed-driven criminal schemes, such as the bribery of DHS officials, which continue to threaten our border security."

A sentencing hearing was set by Judge Cook for November 21, 2008 at 2 p.m.

This case was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security - Office of Inspector General, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Judge.