



# Department of Justice

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## **CITY PLUMBING INSPECTOR SENTENCED ON FEDERAL BRIBERY CHARGES**

St. Louis, Missouri: August “Bill” Beckemeyer was sentenced to 18 months in prison for accepting payments in violation of the federal bribery statute, in connection with St. Louis City’s Sewer Lateral Line Program which is funded by a special property tax levy on City residents, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway announced today.

“This sentence sends a message that there is a price to pay for denying City of St. Louis taxpayers the integrity that they deserve from their public servants,” said Hanaway.

Between January 2001 and May 2006, Beckemeyer, an Inspector for the City of St. Louis Building Division, Plumbing Section, took cash from plumbing contractors and drain layers who were seeking inspections, approval of change orders, or customer referrals.

As Plumbing Inspector, Beckemeyer's duties and responsibilities included approving proposed plumbing and drain laying projects; ensuring that only licensed plumbers and drain layers oversaw the work performed on these projects; approving job change orders to these projects; and inspecting and approving these projects upon completion.

Beckemeyer, 34, 7100 block of Picadilly, St. Louis, pled guilty in January to one felony count of bribery involving federal programs. He appeared this morning for sentencing before United States District Judge Charles A. Shaw.

Hanaway commended the work on the case by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Labor Office of Inspector General, and Executive Assistant United States Attorney Jeffrey Jensen, who handled the case for the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

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