

United States Attorney's Office

Southern District of Texas

Donald J. DeGabrielle, United States Attorney

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FORMER CITY OF BROOKSHIRE OFFICIALS SENTENCED FOR BRIBERY

(HOUSTON, Texas) – Two former City of Brookshire officials have been sentenced for convictions arising from a bribery scheme involving City of Brookshire contracts, United States Attorney Don DeGabrielle announced today. Former Mayor Keith Allen Woods and former City of Brookshire Department of Public Works Director Henry Anthony Cheney pleaded guilty Feb. 15, 2008, to conspiracy to solicit, demand and accept bribe money or kickbacks from a local contractor in exchange for the awarding of city contracts.

Woods, 42, who served five terms as Mayor of the City of Brookshire, and Cheney, 56, both of Brookshire conspired to solicit, demand and accepted approximately \$6,350 in bribes/kickbacks from a demolition contractor with intent to be influenced and rewarded in a series of transactions involving four City of Brookshire contracts worth approximately \$13,250 and a transaction involving future city contracts.

Today, U.S. District Judge Melinda Harmon sentenced Woods to 37 months imprisonment, three years supervised release and a \$7.500 fine. Cheney received 24 months imprisonment, three years supervised release and a \$700 fine. Both men have been permitted to remain free on bond pending an order to surrender to a federal prison facility to be designated in the near future.

The City of Brookshire is located approximately 30 miles west of Houston in Waller County.

This case was investigated by special agents of the FBI and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Michael Wright and Larry Eastepp.

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