



Department of Defense
Office of the Inspector General

Information Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(703) 604-8411

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Project Manager Sentenced for Illegal Payments to Government Employee

The Office of Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on September 16, 2004 Shirley A. Franklin, Project Manager for California-based Computer Consulting Operations Specialists, Incorporated (CCOPS), was sentenced in United States District Court, Eastern District of Virginia (EDVA), Alexandria, Va., before the Honorable Gerald Bruce Lee. Franklin was sentenced to a term of 30 days in jail, two years supervised probation, \$1,000 dollars fine and a \$50 special assessment. Franklin was also ordered to begin serving her sentence by November 1, 2004.

Franklin previously plead guilty in US District Court in June 2004 to violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 209, Supplementing the salary of a federal official. According to the plea, Franklin paid \$275,000 in exchange for business assistance to a government employee. At the time, the government employee was serving as an executive assistant to the Director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (SADBU), U.S. Department of Defense. The government employee thereby exerted substantial influence over the awarding of contracts by the Defense Modeling and Simulation Office (DMSO) to CCOPS. These awards were made between March 1998 through September 2000.

CCOPS is a woman-owned, small and disadvantaged business located in Culver City, Ca. CCOPS provides information technology services to the public and government customers.

Two former Pentagon officials involved with this investigation were each sentenced on December 12, 2003 to 24 years in prison and ordered to forfeit \$2 million. According to a [press release](#) issued by the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, the Court found that the two men received approximately \$1 million in bribes which caused over \$20 million in ill-gotten profits to certain small defense contracting firms. The two men were convicted by a federal jury in Alexandria on July 10, 2003 as detailed in another [press release](#) from the U.S. Attorney's office.

The investigation was conducted jointly by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (the criminal arm of the OIG, DoD), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Steven Larnard, EDVA prosecuted this case. For further information, contact Joseph A. McMillan, Special Agent In Charge (SAC), Mid-Atlantic Field Office, Arlington, Va., at (703) 604-8411.

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