



U.S. Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Michigan

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For Immediate Release:
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Event: Sentenced

Defendant: Anthony Ivezaj

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER SENTENCED FOR BRIBERY OF U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL

Terrence Berg, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, announced that the owner of a Ferndale, Michigan based construction business was sentenced yesterday to 33 months in prison for bribing a U.S. immigration official.

Making the announcement along with U.S. Attorney Berg were Armando Lopez, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Field 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.

The defendant, Anthony Ivezaj, age 40, of Milford, Michigan and the owner of TMI Construction Company, was sentenced in United States District Court before the Honorable Julian Able Cook, Jr.

Mr. Ivezaj was convicted by plea in September of 2008 on the charge of conspiracy to

commit bribery. 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, Detention and Removal Operations division. 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.

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."

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."

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.