

FILED
SEP 29 2017
State Grand Jury Judge

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION - CRIMINAL

State Grand Jury
Number SGJ705-17-6
Superior Court 17-09-00166-8
Docket Number 17-09-00166-8

STATE OF NEW JERSEY)
)
) INDICTMENT
)
v.)
)
WILLIAM ORTIZ)
)
) and
)
)
JOSEPH DEBONIS)

The Grand Jurors of and for the State of New Jersey, upon their oaths, present that:

COUNT ONE

(Conspiracy - Second Degree)

WILLIAM ORTIZ

and

JOSEPH DEBONIS

and one or more other persons whose identities are both known and unknown to the Grand Jurors, who are co-conspirators but not named as defendants herein, between on or about August 15, 2014, and November 23, 2016, at the City of New Brunswick, in the

County of Middlesex, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, with the purpose of promoting or facilitating the commission of the crimes of Official Misconduct, Bribery in Official and Political Matters, and Tampering with Public Records or Information, did agree that one of them would knowingly engage in conduct which would constitute the aforesaid crimes, or, that one of them would knowingly aid in the planning solicitation or commission of said crimes, that is:

1. Official Misconduct, in that one or more of them, being a public servant, would knowingly commit an act related to his office but constituting an unauthorized exercise of his official functions, knowing that such act was unauthorized or that it was being committed in an unauthorized manner, or that he would knowingly refrain from performing a duty which is imposed on him by law or clearly inherent in the nature of his office, with the purpose to derive a benefit for himself or another in excess of \$200, or to injure or deprive another of a benefit in excess of \$200, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:30-2; and

2. Bribery in Official and Political Matters, in that one or more of them would knowingly solicit, accept, or agree to accept any benefit, in excess of \$200, as consideration for the performance of an official duty or the violation of an official

duty, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:27-2.

3. Tampering with Public Records or information; in that one or more of them would, with the purpose to defraud or injure, make, present, offer for filing or use any record, document or thing knowing it to be false, and with the purpose that it be taken as a genuine part of information or records belonging to, received or kept by, the government for information or record, or required by law to be kept by others for information of the government, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:28-7.

All in violation of the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:5-2, and against the peace of this state, the government, and dignity of the same.

COUNT TWO

(Official Misconduct - Second Degree)

WILLIAM ORTIZ

and

JOSEPH DEBONIS

between on or about August 15, 2014 and on or about November 23, 2016, at the City of New Brunswick, in the County of Middlesex, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, did commit the offense of official misconduct, in that the said WILLIAM ORTIZ and JOSEPH DEBONIS, each being a public servant and acting with the purpose to obtain a benefit for himself or another in excess of \$200 or to injure or deprive another of a benefit in excess of \$200, did commit an act relating to the office of the said WILLIAM ORTIZ or JOSEPH DEBONIS, but constituting an unauthorized exercise of his official functions, knowing that such act was unauthorized or that he was committing it in an unauthorized manner, or did refrain from performing a duty imposed upon him by law or clearly inherent in the nature of his office, that is the said WILLIAM ORTIZ, then and there being a public servant, to wit: a Water Meter Reader with the Water Department of the City of New Brunswick, having thereby the official functions and duties, among others, to keep legible and accurate records, to record readings to serve as a basis for

measuring water consumption, to display good faith, honesty and integrity, and to be impervious to corrupting influences, and the said JOSEPH DEBONIS, then and there being a public servant, to wit: a Senior Account Clerk with the Water Department of the City of New Brunswick, having thereby the official functions and duties, among others, to verify the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to transactions, to investigate irregular charges and billings, to display good faith, honesty and integrity, and to be impervious to corrupting influences, did improperly solicit, accept or agree to accept funds in excess of \$200 from another, did create or provide a falsified municipal water and sewer bill for a property located within the City of New Brunswick or did replace a City-owned water meter with a modified meter for the purpose of reducing a consumer water and sewer bill on a property located within the City of New Brunswick, with the purpose to secure a benefit to himself or another in excess of \$200, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:30-2 and N.J.S.A. 2C:2-6, and against the peace of this State, the government, and dignity of the same.

COUNT THREE

(Bribery in Official and Political Matters - Second Degree)

WILLIAM ORTIZ

and

JOSEPH DEBONIS

between on or about August 15, 2014, and on or about November 23, 2016, at the City of New Brunswick, in the County of Middlesex, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, knowingly did directly or indirectly solicit, accept, or agree to accept from another a benefit, that is funds in excess of \$200, to wit approximately \$3,000, as consideration for the violation of their official duties as public servants or as consideration for the performance of their official duties as public servants, that is: a Water Meter Reader and Senior Account Clerk, respectively, with the Water Department of the City of New Brunswick, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:27-2 and N.J.S.A. 2C:2-6, and against the peace of this State, the government, and dignity of the same.

COUNT FOUR

(Tampering with Public Records or Information)

WILLIAM ORTIZ

and

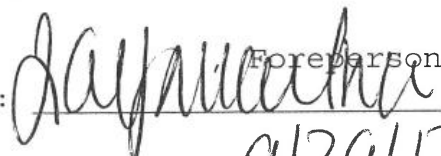
JOSEPH DEBONIS

between on or about August 15, 2014, and on or about November 23, 2016, at the City of New Brunswick, in the County of Middlesex, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, with purpose to defraud or injure, did make, present, offer for filing or use any record, document or thing knowing it to be false, and with the purpose that it be taken as a genuine part of information or records belonging to, received or kept by, the government for information or record, or required by law to be kept by others for information of the government, that is, the said WILLIAM ORTIZ and JOSEPH DEBONIS, did make, present, offer for filing or use one or more falsified municipal water and sewer bill(s) for property located within the City of New Brunswick, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:28-7(a)(2)

and N.J.S.A. 2C:2-6, and against the peace of this State, the government, and dignity of the same.


Elie Honig,
Director, Division of Criminal Justice

A TRUE BILL:

Dated: 
Raymond Foreperson
9/29/17

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SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION - CRIMINAL

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY)
v.)
WILLIAM ORTIZ)
and)
JOSEPH DEBONIS)

ORDER OF VENUE

An Indictment having been returned to this Court by the State Grand Jury in the above captioned matter,

IT IS ORDERED on this 29th day of September, 2017, pursuant to paragraph 8 of the State Grand Jury Act, that the County of Union be and hereby is designated as the County of venue for the purpose of trial.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Superior Court shall transmit forthwith the Indictment in this matter and a certified copy of this Order to the Criminal Division Manager of the County of Union for filing.

Mary C. Jacobson, NJC
Mary C. Jacobson, A.J.S.C.