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Commissioner and Chair

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THE BUSINESS INTEGRITY COMMISSION DENIES ONE LICENSE AND FIVE REGISTRATIONS AFTER FINDING THAT APPLICANTS LACKED GOOD CHARACTER, HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

Denials Issued for Various Reasons Including False and Misleading Information in Applications, Criminal Convictions of Principals and Ties to Organized Crime

Commissioner and Chair Shari C. Hyman of the New York City Business Integrity Commission announced on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, that the Commission denied one license renewal application to operate a trade waste business in New York City, one application for registration to operate a trade waste business in New York City, and four registration renewal applications to operate a trade waste business in New York City. The Commission has the authority to refuse approval of registrations and licenses in these industries when, among other things, it is determined that applicants lack “good character, honesty and integrity”. The Commission determined that the six applicants lack the requisite integrity for various reasons, such as the failure to provide truthful information in the course of the Commission’s investigations, criminal convictions of principals, and for four applicants, associations with organized crime.

“The denials issued today by the Business Integrity Commission illustrate the critical need for continued vigilance and oversight over the trade waste industry,” said Commissioner and Chair Hyman, “The influence of bad actors remains in this industry and it is imperative that we take action to ensure a fair, honest market and preserve the public interest.”

Absolute Trucking, Inc. (“Absolute”) applied to the Commission to renew its registration to operate a trade waste business engaged in the removal of construction and demolition debris. The Commission determined that Absolute failed to disclose that John Castelle, also known as “Big John” Castellucci, is acting as principal of Absolute. Castelle (a/k/a/ Castellucci) is a member of the Lucchese organized crime family and is a convicted racketeer. Absolute made numerous misrepresentations to the Commission concerning John Castelle’s involvement in the company, his criminal record, and his involvement with organized crime.

Coney Island Container, Inc. (“Coney Island Container”) applied to the Commission to renew its registration to operate a trade waste business engaged in the removal of construction and demolition debris. On May 11, 2012, one of Coney Island Container’s owners, Anthony Castelle, was indicted on weapons charges by the Staten Island District Attorney’s Office which constitute racketeering activities. Castelle pleaded guilty to a class “D” felony and is now a

convicted racketeer. Additionally, Coney Island Container failed to disclose Castelle's prior arrests and convictions, as well as his lifetime of associations with organized crime members.

Stallion Recycling Corporation ("Stallion") applied to the Commission to renew its trade waste license. The Commission denied Stallion's application after the Commission revealed that Stallion's principal associated with Angelo Paccione, a member of the Gambino organized crime family. Paccione is also a convicted racketeer who was involved in what was characterized in Federal Court as "one of the largest frauds involving environmental crimes ever prosecuted in the United States." Stallion failed to disclose its association with Paccione, and made false and misleading statements to the Commission.

Summit Development Corporation, doing business as Summit Waterproofing and Restoration Co. ("Summit"), applied to the Commission to renew its registration to operate a trade waste business engaged in the removal of construction and demolition debris. The Commission denied Summit's application because the company's principal, Peter Fakiris, has significant ties to the Lucchese organized crime family, and also committed racketeering acts.

Munoz Transport LLC ("Munoz") applied to the Commission for a registration to operate a trade waste businesses engaged in the removal of construction and demolition debris. The Commission denied Munoz's application on the basis that Munoz provided false and misleading information to the Commission about its operations, and also admitted that it failed to pay taxes.

Jerry Panico, doing business as Panico Landscaping ("Panico") applied to the Commission to renew its registration to operate a trade waste business engaged in the removal of waste generated in the course of operating its landscaping business. Panico's sole owner, Jerry Panico was convicted in January 2010 by the Superior Court of New Jersey, Monmouth County, for theft by deception. Additionally, Panico failed to provide truthful information to the Commission by not disclosing this criminal conviction.

The Business Integrity Commission ("BIC") is both a law enforcement and regulatory agency charged with the oversight of the private carting industry, the businesses operating in the City's public wholesale markets, and the shipboard gambling industry. The mission of BIC is to eliminate organized crime and other forms of corrupting and criminality from the industries it regulates.

Copies of the above mentioned denial decisions are available on the Agency website:
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/bic/html/home/home.shtml>