



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
APRIL 26, 2011**

**CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
ELLEN DAVIS, JERIKA RICHARDSON  
EDELI RIVERA, CARLY SULLIVAN  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE  
(212) 637-2600**

**DOI  
DIANE STRUZZI  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE  
(212) 825-5931**

**FORMER PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF MEDICAID-FUNDED  
HOME ATTENDANT SERVICE SENTENCED IN MANHATTAN  
FEDERAL COURT TO 20 MONTHS IN PRISON  
FOR STEALING OVER \$800,000**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and ROSE GILL HEARN, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today that O'DELL HOLLAND was sentenced in Manhattan federal court to 20 months in prison for stealing over \$800,000 from the Tremont Community Council Home Attendant Program, Inc. ("Tremont"), a nonprofit home attendant program servicing elderly and disabled individuals in the Bronx, New York. HOLLAND, the former Program Director of Tremont, previously pled guilty in April 2010 to one count of embezzlement. United States District Judge ROBERT W. SWEET imposed the sentence.

Manhattan U.S. Attorney PREET BHARARA stated: "O'Dell Holland stole hundreds of thousands of precious Medicaid dollars that were intended for the elderly and disabled clients of the program he administered. At a time of shrinking budgets and scarce resources, his conduct is particularly egregious. Now he will pay for his crimes."

DOI Commissioner ROSE GILL HEARN stated: "Nonprofit insiders who use their public funds as personal stockpiles of cash face one fate: arrest, prosecution, and likely prison time. Today, this defendant was called to account for stealing more than \$800,000 from a Medicaid-funded nonprofit to benefit himself, thereby depriving the nonprofit's elderly and disabled clients. This outcome is the result of DOI's continued partnership with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern

District in ferreting out this type of abuse."

According to documents previously filed in Manhattan federal court and statements HOLLAND made at his guilty plea proceeding:

From January 2004 through June 2008, Tremont contracted with the New York City Human Resources Administration ("HRA") to provide home attendant services to Medicaid-eligible, elderly, and disabled individuals in the Bronx. The program's July 2007 contract with the City was valued at over \$445,000, a substantial portion of which consisted of Medicaid funds. When the contract concluded in June 2008, Tremont was providing home attendant services, including general housekeeping services, to approximately 200 clients. HOLLAND served as the Program Director of Tremont from 2002 through mid-2008, and was paid approximately \$76,000 by the program in 2007.

As Program Director, HOLLAND caused over \$800,000 belonging to Tremont to be diverted to his personal benefit. He made multiple unauthorized wire transfers from a Tremont account to a personal account in his name, and wrote multiple checks payable to himself on the Tremont account. These wire transfers and checks totaled in excess of \$570,000. HOLLAND also made unauthorized wire transfers totaling approximately \$135,000 from the program's account to an architect to pay for renovations and other architectural work at a nightclub in the Bronx and at a residence in Pomona, New York, both of which he owned. Finally, HOLLAND had hundreds of thousands of dollars transferred from that account to accounts held by a Manhattan law firm and one of its principals. Over \$100,000 of that money was subsequently transferred to him or to third parties on his behalf through checks drawn on an escrow account in the law firm's name.

\* \* \*

In addition to the prison term, Judge SWEET sentenced HOLLAND, 39, of New York, New York, to three years of supervised release and ordered him to pay restitution and forfeiture each in the amount of \$807,000.

Mr. BHARARA praised the investigative work of DOI.

The prosecution is being handled by the Office's Public Corruption Unit. Assistant United States Attorney BRENT WIBLE is in charge of the prosecution.

11-110

###